

COVER TENNESSEE

An Update from the office of Governor Phil Bredesen

August 28, 2006

DIRECTOR AND BOARD NAMED FOR ACCESTN

BREDESEN'S HEALTH PLAN FOR UNINSURABLES WILL HAVE FIRST BOARD MEETING AUGUST 29, 2006

Commissioner Dave Goetz has named David Hilley, JD to lead the Governor's comprehensive insurance plan for uninsurable Tennesseans, AccessTN. Hilley joins the Division of Insurance Administration under the Department of Finance & Administration. Prior to working with AccessTN, Hilley served as Vice President of Operations for Seton Healthcare Network in Texas, and most recently, as Privacy and Compliance officer for TennCare.

"David Hilley is uniquely qualified to lead AccessTN," said F & A Commissioner Dave Goetz. "He has impressive experience running a health plan in Texas, and he knows the Tennessee experience from his tenure at TennCare. We are lucky to get him for this initiative."

AccessTN is a high-risk pool specifically designed to meet the higher utilization needs of Tennesseans who are seriously ill and have been deemed uninsurable. Thirty-three other states operate similar high-risk pools. AccessTN is one program under the larger Cover Tennessee umbrella which also encompasses insurance options CoverTN and CoverKids, prescription assistance under CoverRx, and healthy lifestyle initiatives under ProjectDiabetes and Coordinated School Health.

This week, the Commissioner has also announced the Board of Directors for AccessTN. According to statute the Board includes 3 representatives of the Administration, 2 nominees from the Speakers of the General Assembly, representatives of the Tennessee Hospital Association, the Tennessee Medical Association, a self-insured employer with more than 500 employees, a commercially insured employer of less than 500 employees, a producer in the health insurance business, and a member of the general public. After a plan administrator contract has been awarded, representatives will

be added from a hospital and medical service corporation and from an insurer other than a hospital and medical service corporation,

The Board is tasked with presenting an operational plan and a funding plan to the Commissioner of the Department of Finance & Administration and to the Comptroller of the Treasury on an annual basis to assure fair, reasonable and efficient administration of the pool and its ongoing financial solvency. These plans shall become effective upon approval by both the Commissioner and the Comptroller.

An organizational meeting of the Board has been scheduled for August 29, 2006, in the Executive Conference Room of the State Capitol, at 1:30 pm.

Board members include:

- Dave Goetz, Commissioner, Finance & Administration, Board Chair
- Kenneth Robinson, Commissioner, Health
- Virginia Trotter Betts, Commissioner, Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities
- Rep. Gary Odom, D-Nashville, Nashville, TN
- Tim Scarvey, HCA, Brentwood, TN
- Tracy Bradford, Synaxis, Polk and Sullivan, Memphis, TN
- William Phillips, Bridgestone/Firestone, Nashville, TN
- Sylvia Walker, State Farm Insurance, Memphis, TN
- Lou Cook, Dyersburg, TN
- Tara Sturdivant, State Department of Health, Knoxville, TN

A member from the Senate has not yet been named.

COVER TENNESSEE

An Update from the office of Governor Phil Bredesen

August 28, 2006

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES:
COORDINATED SCHOOL HEALTH

In the next few weeks, the Tennessee Department of Education will award grants to expand Coordinated School Health program (CSH) to school systems across the state. All school systems are to implement a coordinated school health program by the 2007-08 school year.

School systems will receive information about grant applications at the end of August. Those systems that submit a letter of intent to apply will receive full application materials. Information sessions will be held in late fall. To read more about Coordinated School Health or the Centers for Disease Control model, visit <http://www.tennessee.gov/education/ci/cischhealth/cihlthmainpage2.shtml>.

The root of the Coordinated School Health program is an understanding that it is in the best interest of everyone to attend to students' basic health needs to ensure learning can take place. Because of the amount of time children spend at school, it is an optimal place to help cultivate the attitudes, knowledge and habits that lead to healthy productive lives.

The coordinated school health approach emphasizes needs assessment; planning based on data, sound science, and analysis of gaps and redundancies in school health programming; and evaluation. The national model consists of equal emphasis on health instruction; school health services; healthy school environment; counseling, psychological and guidance services; nutrition; staff wellness; physical education; and an integrated school-community partnership.

The success of a Coordinated School Health program depends largely on the effective integration of these eight components. If well

COVERTN:
Coming to a Chamber Near You

In coming weeks, Commissioner Dave Goetz will be traveling the across Tennessee to talk to small business about CoverTN, an affordable health insurance product currently under development that is intended specifically to meet the needs of small businesses struggling to offer even basic health coverage for their employees.

These meetings are being hosted by area Chambers of Commerce and supported in part by the Tennessee Chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business.

9/6/2006	Johnson City	7:30 AM	(423) 461-8000
9/6/2006	Knoxville	11:45 AM	(865) 637-4550
9/7/2006	Chattanooga	7:30 AM	(423) 756-2121
9/7/2006	Nashville	11:45 AM	(615) 743-3102
9/8/06	Jackson	7:30 AM	(731) 423-2200
9/8/2006	Dyersburg	11:45 AM	(731) 285-3433
9/12/2006	Memphis	7:30 AM	(901)543-3500

coordinated, these components can have complementary effects on the physical, mental, emotional and social well-being of students, staff, and the community.

Particularly crucial is a system-wide coordinator, a position required for implementation in Tennessee. Each school can begin this process by utilizing a self-assessment and planning tool called the School Health Index, a resource available free from the CDC.

In 2006, Tennessee became the only state to mandate and fund a statewide coordinated school health program. Tennessee began with 10 CSH pilot sites in 2001 that followed the model developed by the Centers for Disease Control. A 2005 evaluation of these pilots found positive effects such as improved school nurse to student ratios, accelerated progress in math and language arts achievement, improved graduation rates and increased P.E. class time.

More school personnel are participating in wellness programs now than in 2003 and the School Health Advisory Councils have more parent and community involvement. These programs also provide access to health screenings that include vision, hearing, blood pressure, Body-Mass Index and scoliosis

Over time, it is anticipated these healthy lifestyles initiatives with children will decrease the costs of health care in Tennessee for chronic and preventable illness, and increase the quality and longevity of life for Tennesseans.

To sign up for updates on
Cover Tennessee
call **1-866-COVERTN**
or go to www.Tennessee.gov

To sign up to receive updates on Cover Tennessee,
call **1-866-COVERTN** or log onto www.tennessee.gov